



## Possible legal action

Press release issued by Hudak offends Craitor



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Saturday, March 12, 2011

## BBS strikes its \$40,000 goal



KRIS DUBÉ/ Fort Erie Times

Five-year-old James Mason gets ready to throw a strike at Carroll's Bowling Lanes last Saturday, the final day of action for Fort Erie Big Brothers Big Sisters' Bowl for Kids' Sake campaign. The agency has exceeded its \$40,000 goal after falling short last year. Read the whole story on page nine.

## Council uses patience

➤ Report tabled until arrival of second legal opinion

Kris Dubé  
The Times

Council has decided to be patient and wait for the independent third-party legal opinion on possible ramifications of breaking the Town's contract with the Molinaro Group and to not build a condo at Bay Beach.

Last week, council went into closed session after Wednesday's operating budget meeting to discuss what firm would be conducting a review of whether or not the Town will be subject to \$3.2 million in litigation, a number projected and warned of by Town staff over recent weeks, since the majority of council decided to move ahead with killing the Crystal Beach Gateway Project, a proposed 12-storey condominium building on the south side of Erie Road that has caused over three years of debate within the community and local government.

See Page 2

# Kim Craitor MPP

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KRIS DUBE/Fort Erie Times

Patti Carver, left, and Ruth Bruyns at the Avondale in Crystal Beach, as Ridgeway resident Ray Martin signs a petition in support of either rezoning the Bay Beach properties or not rezoning, which would keep the project a possibility.

### From Page 1

Aird and Berliss LLP, a firm based out of the Greater Toronto Area, will conduct the review and provide a second legal opinion, after the Town of Fort Erie's own legal staff, along with the finance department and the chief administrative officer all warned that taxpayers could face a 6.9 per cent tax increase if council's next step is to rezone the properties at Bay Beach

and essentially close all discussion about the proposed development.

Being considered on Monday, was a report that council could approve to begin rezoning and basically make it official that the Town is breaking its contract with the Burlington-based developer.

A motion was made by Ward 1 Coun. Stephen Passero to table the report, since he feels council should wait until the answers they have asked for are provided.

"It's this council that has

said we want all the information, so we can make an informed decision," added Passero.

Passero said it was important to give the firm as much time as it needs, since this is such a crucial step in the process and it is unknown whether they will need to come back with more research or look into other similar cases taking place within the development community.

"I find it somewhat ridiculous we're trying to rush them," said Passero. Mayor Doug Martin's sentiments were similar to

Passero's, saying that moving ahead with the rezoning basically illustrates that minds have been made up, regardless of what the third-party review suggests.

"To do this tonight, is basically saying you've already pre-determined the outcome of what you're going to hear," said Martin.

The earliest council will receive the report from the firm is March 21 and chief administrative officer Harry Schlangue says he is "pushing for" representatives to be present on this day to answer questions

council may have.

The Planning Act requires a minimum 20-day notice to the community through an advertisement in the Times, before council will begin the rezoning process with a public meeting at Town Hall on the matter, scheduled for April 18.

Ward 6 Coun. Paul Collard feels this will provide enough time for an ad to be placed in the Mar. 26 issue of the local paper, in tandem with when the legal opinion arrives.

"I agree, we need to take time and get the report, but at the same time, we don't want them taking six to eight weeks to do it," said Collard.

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# Council approves gateway plan, looks ahead to future

Kris Dubé  
The Times

The Town of Fort Erie is looking into the future, by approving its Gateway Secondary Plan.

On Monday night, council gave the green light to the plan that calls for a land use framework for property lying east of Concession Road, south of the QEW and west and north of Lake Erie and Niagara River.

The vision for this area first came to the table in 2001 and in 2004 a gateway urban design strategy was approved.

Staff describes the project as a way of improving the image of not only Fort Erie, but also of Ontario and the entire nation of Canada, considering its close proximity to the border.

The subject lands are 262 acres.

In the report approved by council, it is projected that Greater Fort Erie's population will grow by 10,000 to 40,000 by 2031 and this strategy will accommodate that growth.

"We're very pleased to be at this point," said the town's director of community and development services Rino Mostacchi, before a brief presentation and overview of the plan was provided by neighbourhood planner Tom Villella.

Summarizing the program, Villella

said the proposed improvements will provide a more distinct and favourable image for the area.

"This neighbourhood performs an important role, providing a first impression of the town and the region," he said.

Citing that Greater Fort Erie's population is projected to grow by 33 per cent over the next 20 years, Villella said providing a means for this foresight is necessary to reduce urban sprawl.

The objective of neighbourhood planning is to plan and direct that growth to existing urban areas, consistent with urban policy," he said.

In the report, the area is

characterized as by a mix of commercial and residential uses, including the "high-way commercial" uses along Garrison Road and the County Fair Mall. There is "little or no" industrial use in the neighbourhood and residential uses range from large lot singles along Lakeshore Road to mid-rise residential apartment buildings ranging from five to eight stories in height.

The area is fully-equipped with municipal services and is potentially a desirable development area due to its close proximity to the QEW and the border. However, it is currently underdeveloped, resulting in an inefficient use of municipal services, reads

the report.

"The intent is to better utilize these lands to maximize the efficiency of the existing services in the area," added Villella.

Later in the council-committee meeting, a delegation was provided by a senior planner representing Canadian Tire Real Estate Limited (CTREL), who proposed a site specific zoning provision to allow for the current gas bar on Central Avenue to be re-located to the south portion of land of where the Canadian Tire on Garrison Road exists.

He provided a letter on behalf of CTREL, that explains the permission

of a gas bar at the location allows the corporation to carry out its "overall rational strategy to take advantage of the synergies between the two uses."

Council had issues with a gas bar at this location, considering the amount of competing chains that already exist nearby.

Ward 4 Coun. John Hill said he appreciates the idea of competition in business but feels the other gas stations and their role in the community needs to be considered.

"As a council, we need to look at all business in Fort Erie, particularly those that

are affected by other businesses," said Hill.

Ward 2 Coun. Rick Shular agreed, pointing out that if the Canadian Tire gas bar on Central Avenue were to be removed, Ward 1 would lose its only service station and be added to an area that is already equipped with six within a minimal radius.

"I'm taken back, and not supportive of this," he said.

Shular was also curious to hear what the Fort Erie location's franchisee's thoughts are on the proposed relocation of the gas bar.

See Page 4



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**SELECT FROM THE MENU BELOW**

## Region still needs to give approval

From Page 3

Patti Mills-Roy, owner of the store on Garrison Road, said weighing in on the proposed change is out of her hands and is essentially the decision of the Canadian Tire corporation.

"I think it could be helpful for business and our customers here, but I understand the concerns about moving it from another part of town," she said.

Some of the plan's

objectives are to capitalize on the town and region's investment in infrastructure and streetscaping by promoting high quality development and redevelopment.

It will also provide a diversity of suitable housing choices to meet the needs of varying demographics, reads the staff report.

Some of the key land use elements of the plan that are the result of the award-winning gateway urban

design strategy from 2004 include low, medium and high density residential. The plan also calls for a core mixed use area along Garrison Road that would provide a variety of both commercial and residential uses.

Open space development will provide for the creation of parks, trails and natural buffer areas.

Once endorsed by the town through by-law, the Niagara Region will need to give final approval.

Niagara MPP not pleased with press release issued by Tim Hudak's office

Kris Dube  
The Times

Niagara Falls member of provincial parliament Kim Craitor is threatening to take legal action against Ontario Progressive Conservative leader Tim Hudak, over a press release issued last week. It started when another online local news source ran a story about Craitor's thoughts on Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) chair Jumaika Gledhill stepping down from her position where he was quoted saying she did a "good job."

On Friday morning, Hudak's office sent out a press release to media, claiming that Craitor was stating that closing emergency rooms in Fort Erie and Port Colborne was part of this "job

well done."

In 2008, under Gledhill's leadership, the LHIN approved the Niagara Health System (NHS)'s Hospital Improvement Plan.

Craitor said the message provided by Hudak's office was completely misinterpreted and taken out of context.

"The conversation at the time, was about Jumaika as a person," said Craitor.

"As a person, she did a good job. It didn't mean I agree with the decisions made by the LHIN," added Craitor, Fort Erie's representative at the provincial level.

When Fort Erie held a rally at the Leisureplex, bringing out over 5,000 people, Gledhill was there.

When the hospital issue was at its prime in Fort Erie, Gledhill attended and was a delegate at a handful of council meetings, something Craitor feels should be appreciated.

"She was always accessible."

In summary, Craitor feels Hudak's actions were out of line.

"I have a person reviewing all the documentation, giving me their best advice," Craitor said on Thursday.

He feels attention should be paid to Hudak's time as Fort Erie's member of provincial parliament in the 1990's,

under the party's leadership of Mike Harris, the NHS was created and hospitals like Douglas Memorial were placed under its umbrella.

"I don't remember him standing up to Mike Harris, saying 'nope, I'm not buying into this one,'" said Craitor.

He also understands that being in politics requires thick skin and criticism is always expected, but at the same time feels politicians need to play the rules.

"This is a sense of fairness in politics... and I stand by being fair."

Craitor says he will have a better idea by early next week on whether or not he will be taking legal action, but for now only said he has someone weighing his options for him.

"Maybe by then, I'll have calmed down a bit."

However, Hudak is standing firmly by what his office wrote in the press release, and feels Gledhill did not do the "good job" Craitor speaks of.

"It was rather surprised to see the Liberal MPP Kim Craitor say that the out-going chair did a good job. It seems to me her stamp was all over the closure of the emergency room in Fort Erie, in his riding. I strongly disagree that that was a good job, in fact quite the opposite," said Hudak.

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by Alaina Hillyer, M.C.S.  
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# opinion page

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## our editorial

# 'Good news' always rewarding to cover

We love "good news" here at the Fort Erie Times.

This week's front page photo and story on page nine, explains the local Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) agency reached its \$40,000 goal for the Bowl for Kids' Sake campaign, thanks to the community's support and enthusiasm.

To put it simply.... we think that is incredible.

With so much negativity being circulated around town right now over the Bay Beach issue, not only is it great for residents to read a feel good story like this, it's also reward-

ing for our editorial staff to write about something like this for a change.

The community of Greater Fort Erie and everyone at BBBS deserves a good old fashioned pat on the back for their effort, dedication and compassion for such a great cause.

We hope to cover many other stories like this in the future, about people doing good things for the community and helping others in need.

-Kris Dubé



## Do You Remember?

It was so good to hear from sisters Kim and Beverley Huffman about last week's photo of the three aspiring models. This photo was taken at Fort Erie Secondary School in Nov. 1975 with Beverley shown on the far right. She remembers being part of this ad as a favour to her

friend Danielle (Nicole) Martin who was launching a gift shop that would also offer teen modelling and etiquette classes just behind Jarvis Street.

Beverley wrote to us, to say that this photo brought back memories of an old friendship with a special person.

In this week's photo.... is this police officer using an OPP plane to issue tickets? Does anyone remember either of the two men in the photo or why it appeared in the paper? Please call the Museum at (905) 894-5322 or send an e-mail to museum@forterie.on.ca

# Bilboard a sign of silent majority's presence



**Kris Dubé**  
Editor's Notebook

This is truly a "sign" of some local residents' thoughts on the state of Fort Erie and I feel the need to comment.

This week, a billboard was erected on Garrison Road, by a group calling itself the Citizens of Fort Erie and I feel the need to comment.

recent decision to potentially begin the process of rezoning the Bay Beach properties, essentially closing the deal with the Molinaro Group to build a 12-storey-condo building on the south side of Erie Road in Crystal Beach.

For the last three years, this has been a heated issue around town. Some might say it is "the" issue of the last few months, as many people who were never involved in the local political arena have been coming out of the woodwork to provide their opinion.

A year ago, when delegations were made on this project, people opposed

to it severely outweighed those in favour of it. This is true and their concerns were nothing short of valid.

As I have said in the past, until a second legal opinion is provided to council and you can form a final opinion on the recent decision made. If it turns out the taxpayers will be faced with millions of dollars in legal fees, then you have every right to be upset with this council.

Be patient and wait it out. In the meantime, whatever side of this issue you are on, make sure you continue to hear all arguments...even though they have pretty much been

set a precedent for future impressions of Greater Fort Erie from around the province and region.

As I have said in the past, until a second legal opinion is provided to council and you can form a final opinion on the recent decision made. If it turns out the taxpayers will be faced with millions of dollars in legal fees, then you have every right to be upset with this council.

Be patient and wait it out.

In the meantime, whatever side of this issue you are on, make sure you continue to hear all arguments...even though they have pretty much been

beaten to death at this point.

But I will close by saying that this billboard clearly shows there are people in this community who want to see this development become a reality and are willing to spend thousands of dollars from their own pockets to deliver their message on this billboard.

There is a silent majority that has risen, worried about the future of their town and they need to be listened to.

If the mayor and town staff's expectations of an almost seven per cent increase in taxes due to the possible breach of contract are true, then I

will be amazed if council decides to move forward with costing the ratepayers a ton of money.

To be honest, my jaw will drop to the floor.

The four councillors who are in opposition to this development have been given the label of "anti-development" and I don't think that is a fair assessment to be honest. They don't support this project, one of many this council will hopefully consider moving ahead with over the next four years.

Let's hope the end result will be the what is best for Greater Fort Erie and not a battle of personal opinion.

# opinion page

## Debate no longer about if condo is a good fit

Dear Editor,

There is a fractional amount of the population in Greater Fort Erie that would have the community believe the current debate is about whether the Bay Beach condominium project is a good fit.

That is not the debate. That ship has sailed.

As in any municipal process, well established legislation dictates that sound and factual information is gathered and a decision is then made based on that sound and factual information. The decision is then subject to vigorous testing, such as the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB), to ensure it is compliant to the well established legislation.

Previous council gathered sound and factual information. They made a decision to contract with the Molinaro Group based on that sound and factual information. The decision was subjected to the vigorous testing of the OMB; 13 appeals, 13 dismissals. The decision was found to be a good decision for Greater Fort Erie.

Current council has completely reversed this process. Upon being elected, they made a decision to kill the project. Now they are gathering facts to support that decision, and in so doing they exclude anything

factual that would compromise that end. Their path is clear as day; evidenced by their behaviors and the greatly unsettled feeling amongst the population that voted for them.

What a few call "four councillors that listen to the people" and what some find admirable and redeeming, I find objectionable and rogue. Not because they don't support or endorse a particular project, but because one lacks the courage and integrity to make a decision and stand by it, and the other three show complete contempt for legislative protocols and the codes of conduct that they swore to uphold.

That they might willingly collude and conspire and give in to a mentality that "the end justifies the means" is a complete breach of trust and shows nothing of the transparency or accountability their office and position within the Greater Fort Erie Community demands.

Prominent members of the province's construction, development and business community as well as the regional political landscape have approached this council expressing their shock and distaste for this unprecedented course of action.

The message has been clear from developers

across the province: "We will not come near Fort Erie again." The message has been clear from our regional peers: "If you will not support yourself then we will no longer support you."

Yet this council continues forward with an arrogant indifference towards the tide now rising against our community.

Kiss that hospital hope goodbye; we won't find an ounce of goodwill left in this region if this council continues.

The City of Thunder Bay recently made minor changes to a development contract and were promptly sued for \$126 million dollars. They appealed to have the case arbitrated. That appeal was denied and they were forced to pay the developers legal costs. Now they're looking square on at a \$126 million dollar lawsuit.

While the end result costs are unlikely to reach \$126 million dollars, the ratepayers in Thunder Bay are bound to walk away from this experience in a bow-legged fashion.

And Fort Erie is next, with the development community and their collective legal teams pooling their support against us and this dishonest approach to handling our business affairs.

Underneath it all,

whether one agrees with the condo or not, the lesson on display in an unprecedented fashion to our regional neighbors and the rest of the province is that, should the winds of opinion change, it is acceptable in Fort Erie to renege on a commitment.

Not just a verbal commitment and the romantic notion that between good people a handshake is binding, but the very formal and legal covenants that contract law has engrained into society as protective

measures against those that would hold a low regard for the concept of commitment.

For a young business guy, this council's course of action is a crushing blow to everything I have grown up understanding about how a businessperson should conduct themselves.

This council's course of action destroys a foundation upon which the good business ideals of my generation have been built and I will not accept this choice they have made on my behalf.

I never thought I'd be "that guy" the one all worked up about municipal politics. I'm beyond embarrassed at this shameful chain of events. Please stand up and be heard, send an e-mail to council today. This is a train wreck that can be avoided.

You can send one single e-mail to town clerk and ask that it be distributed to council.

Her email is [ckett@forterie.on.ca](mailto:ckett@forterie.on.ca).

Dave Shaw  
Stevensville

### The TIMES Asks

Why is it important for the younger generation to pay attention to local issues?



**Eddie Courty**

"So we know what's going on and what could be improved."



**Marvell Sanders**

"We have to be aware of what's going on in social society and in the community."



**Josh Nutgeren**

"So we can hear about upcoming events we might want to attend."



**Cameron Volzke**

"Because we are the future generation of this town."

### What do you think?

E-mail: [editorial@forterietimes.com](mailto:editorial@forterietimes.com) or call 905-871-3100, ext. 207

# Annual Meeting

# 2010

Fort Erie Community Credit Union cordially invites you to attend our Annual General Meeting to be held Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> 2011. Meeting commences at 7:00 PM at Bridgewater Golf & Country Club.

Members are encouraged to come out and enjoy the camaraderie, refreshments and a chance to win one of numerous door prizes to be given away throughout the evening.

**FORT ERIE CREDIT UNION**  
People Helping People  
[www.forteriecu.com](http://www.forteriecu.com)



201 Jarvis Street 1201 Garrison Road  
905-871-1552 905-894-1201

# THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE

1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, ON, L2A 2S6

(905) 871-1600 • Fax (905) 871-4022 • [www.forterie.on.ca](http://www.forterie.on.ca)

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE INFORMATION 905-871-1600

RADIO EMERGENCY INFORMATION 91.7 FM - 105.7 FM - 610 AM



## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

### (1) LOOKING FOR SUMMER WORK?

The Corporation is now accepting applications for summer student employment opportunities in parks/cemeteries; facilities; roads; horticulture; museums; engineering and office administration. Schedules may include Saturday and Sunday. Some positions require a valid, Class G driver's license. Further details are available at [www.town.forterie.ca](http://www.town.forterie.ca). Go to "Town Hall", then click on Employment Opportunities.

Returning students MUST apply. Application forms are available on-line, at Town Hall, the Leisureplex and the Gibson Centre. The deadline for receiving applications is 5:00 p.m. **FRIDAY MARCH 25, 2011.**

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### (1) OVERNIGHT WINTER PARKING ON STREETS

**ATTENTION ALL MOTORISTS:** In an effort to keep the streets free of vehicles during the winter months for snowplowing and sanding operations, residents are reminded that no overnight parking is permitted.

Traffic By-law No. 2000-89, Section 205 provides that "no person shall park a vehicle or permit a vehicle to remain parked" on any street in Town "between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. between November 1, 2010 and March 31, 2011."

The Town's By-law Enforcement Officers will be exercising vigilant enforcement of By-law No. 2000-89. Your vehicle will be issued a parking ticket and could be towed, at your expense, if found in violation of this by-law.

Enquiries may be directed to the Town's By-law Enforcement Officers by calling (905) 871-1600, Extension 2216 (Geoff Stephenson) or Extension 2215 (Jack Cox).

### (2) COUNCIL'S DRAFT CORPORATE STRATEGIC PLAN 2011-2014

A Public Meeting has been scheduled to take place during the March 21, 2011 Council-In-Committee meeting to provide the opportunity to comment on Municipal Council's draft 2011-2014 Corporate Strategic Plan.

The draft Strategic Plan sets out the most important Council priorities, goals and initiatives to focus on over the next four years.

The Draft Plan is available on the Town's web-site at: [www.forterie.on.ca](http://www.forterie.on.ca). Copies are also available at Town Hall, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie.

It would be appreciated if any person wishing to address Council on the Draft Plan's content during the Public Meeting contact the Clerk's Office by no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 10, 2011 by contacting 905-871-1600 ext. 2236.

Please direct any enquiries and all comments to the undersigned.

Office of the Chief Administrative Officer  
(905) 871-1600 Ext. 2201 • [ltbradram@forterie.on.ca](mailto:ltbradram@forterie.on.ca)

### (3) TOWN OF FORT ERIE 2011 MARCH BREAK PUBLIC SKATING

Leisureplex:	March 12th	2:00 - 3:30 pm	\$1.50/Person
	March 13th	2:00 - 3:30 pm	\$1.50/Person
Crystal Ridge Arena:	March 14th	2:00 - 3:30 pm	\$1.50/Person
	March 15th	7:00 - 8:00 pm	\$2.50/Person
	March 17th	2:00 - 3:30 pm	\$1.50/Person
	March 18th	2:00 - 3:30 pm	\$1.50/Person
	March 20th	2:00 - 3:30 pm	\$1.50/Person
	March 11th	8:00 - 10:00 pm	\$2.50/Person
	March 16th	2:00 - 3:30 pm	\$1.50/Person
	March 18th	8:00 - 10:00 pm	\$2.50/Person

## FIRE DEPARTMENT EVENTS

### (1) ST. PATTY'S DINNER

Con Beef & Cabbage

Fire Station #3 - 1015 Dominion Road

• March 17th, 2011 • 4:30 - 7:00 pm

\$10.00 - Adults • \$5.00 - 10 years and under



### ST. PATTY'S DAY BREAKFAST

Date: Sunday March 13, 2011 • Time: 8:00 am to 11:00 am  
Enjoy a hearty plate of sausage, eggs, and pancakes • Cost: \$5.00  
Little Leprechauns 5 yrs and under • Cost: \$2.00  
Event Location: Fire Station #2, 207 Jarvis Street

*Thank you for supporting your local firefighters!*

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

### (1) Infrastructure Services – Operations Division NEW 2011 VEHICLE PURCHASES

- Contract # FM-01-11 New 2011 or 2012 SUV or Hybrid, Automatic  
Contract # FM-02-11 New 2011 or 2012 Full-Size Crew Cab, Short Box, 4X4 Pickup Truck, 8 Cylinder, Automatic  
Contract # FM-03-11 New 2011 or 2012 Full Size Crew Cab, Short Box Pickup Truck, 8 Cylinder, Automatic, 2500 HD  
Contract # FM-04-11 New 2011 or 2012 Full Size Extend-a-Cab, Short Box Pickup Truck, 8 Cylinder, Automatic, 4 Wheel Drive  
Contract # FM-05-11 New 2011 or 2012 Single Axle Dump Cab and Chassis Compatible with Sander and Dump Box, One-Way Snow Plow, Levelling Wing and Hydraulic Controls with Pre-Wetting  
Contract # FM-06-11 New 2011 or 2012 Full Size Cargo Van, 6 Cylinder, Automatic, 2 wheel drive  
Contract # FM-07-11 New 2011 or 2012 Full Size Regular Cab, Long Box Pickup Truck, 8 Cylinder, Automatic, 4 Wheel Drive

Sealed tenders clearly marked as to content will be received by Carolyn J. Kett, Town Clerk, 1 Municipal Centre, Fort Erie ON until **2:00 P.M.** local time on:

**THURSDAY MARCH 31, 2011**

Commencing immediately afterwards on the above date, tenders will be opened publicly at the Fort Erie Municipal Centre, Conference Room #3. The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie reserves the right to reject any or all tenders and the lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted. Tender documents may be obtained commencing **Wednesday March 16, 2011**, at The J.L. Gibson Centre, 1618 Peitz Rd, Fort Erie ON.

**Effective February 1, 2011**, all Town of Fort Erie's formal competitive bid opportunities, issued by the Purchasing Services Division will be posted on [biddings.com](http://biddings.com) and organized by community. This service will provide businesses with a "one stop shop" for bid opportunities available from the Town of Fort Erie, as well as other organizations using [www.biddings.com/forterie](http://www.biddings.com/forterie). This service could open new markets for the goods or services you offer.

### (2) TENDER FOR PARKDALE AVENUE WATERMAIN REPLACEMENT CONTRACT NO. IS.10PARK

Sealed tenders clearly marked as to content will be received by Carolyn J. Kett, Town Clerk, Municipal Centre, Fort Erie, Ontario until 2:00 p.m. LOCAL TIME on:

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2011**

Commencing immediately afterwards on the above date, tenders will be opened publicly at the Fort Erie Town Hall Meeting Room No. 3.

The work includes the replacement of an aging watermain along Parkdale Avenue from Dominion Road to Englewood Avenue in Fort Erie. Specifically, the installation of approximately:

- 465m of 150mm dia. PVC watermain by open trench including services, hydrants and connections to existing mains;
- Roadside drainage improvements and partial road rehabilitation;
- Pulverizing and recycling of existing asphalt and granular materials will be required.

**Effective February 1, 2011**, all Town of Fort Erie's formal competitive bid opportunities, issued by the Purchasing Services Division will be posted on [biddings.com](http://biddings.com) and organized by community. This service will provide businesses with a "one stop shop" for bid opportunities available from the Town of Fort Erie, as well as other organizations using [www.biddings.com/forterie](http://www.biddings.com/forterie). This service could open new markets for the goods or services you offer.

If a hard copy is required, tender documents may be picked up at the Town Hall, Engineering Division, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, ON L2A 2S6, commencing Thursday, March 17, 2011 on payment of twenty-eight dollars and twenty-five cents (\$28.25 - non-refundable cash or cheque payable to the Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie.

As of Thursday, March 17, 2011, Tender Documents may be viewed at the Fort Erie Infrastructure Services Department, Engineering Division and at the Niagara Construction Association, 34 Scot Street, St. Catharines, Ontario.

The Corporation reserves the right to reject any and all tenders and the lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

**INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES**



# Still a chance to donate online

Kris Dubé  
The Times

The local Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) agency has thrown a strike right down the middle of the lane.

In its 15th year for the Bowl for Kids Sake campaign, a goal of \$40,000 has been reached and is still climbing, with a total of \$42,129 being collected by Thursday, when the Times spoke to executive director Sondra Barrett.

"For all of Fort Erie to come together and help us reach our goal, is simply amazing," said Barrett.

Last year, the amount raised was about \$2,000 shy

“

**For all of Fort Erie to come together and help us reach our goal, is simply amazing.”**

— Sondra Barrett

of the \$40,000 goal.

The event takes place at Carroll's Bowling Lanes on Klauk Street.

Barrett says this year's success can be attributed to people getting a better understanding of what the

campaign is all about by participating in previous runs, knowing it's a great way to spend and evening, raising money for a great cause at the same time.

"People realize it's a fun event, so they come back the next year," she said.

The money raised will go towards services offered by BBBS, with an aim on ways to provide opportunities to children enrolled in local schools through in-school mentorships, the go-gis program and other after school components.

"A big focus right now is on site-based programs," said Barrett.

Currently, there are 17

children on a waiting list to be matched with a Big Brother or Big Sister.

The largest percentage of the money raised came from cash gifts and sponsors such as Tim Horton's, Sun Media, TV Cogeco and other local sponsors, who brought in just under \$10,000.

Between three time slots last Saturday, \$8,694 was raised by participating teams.

On Saturday Feb. 26, \$7,386 was raised for the cause.

Donations will still be accepted until the end of April, through [www.forteriebowl2011.kintera.org](http://www.forteriebowl2011.kintera.org).

## Capital and operating budgets approved

Town council has adopted two by-laws, rubber-stamping its budget process.

In a special council meeting, after Monday's council-in-committee meeting, local politicians gave its final endorsement to its general levy operating budget of \$18,926,407 and its capital budget of \$9,121,002.

Taxpayers will feel a 2.9 per cent increase, which equates to about \$5.77 per month for

the average home valued over \$167,000.

The Niagara Region was able to help its municipalities, having roughly \$13 million dollars to disperse costs for social services have been taken over by the province.

At the Region, its budget approval creates a decrease of \$18.35 per month on its tax levy for a homeowner with a property assessed at \$210,000.

### Health Care Training Program

### Information Sessions

10 month programs (Sept to June)



### Personal Support Worker

Information Sessions Location & Program Description	Information Session
Port Colborne High School 211 Elgin Street, Port Colborne Day Program	Wed., March 23 or Wed., Apr. 13 1:00 p.m.
Oakwood Park Lodge 6747 Oakwood Drive, Niag. Falls Eve & Wknd Program	Sat., March 26 or Sat., April 16 11:00 a.m.
 <a href="http://www.dsn.org/community">www.dsn.org/community</a> DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA Achieving Success Together	905-687-7000 <a href="mailto:psw@dsn.edu.on.ca">psw@dsn.edu.on.ca</a>

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**EMPLOYMENT ONTARIO**

This Employment Ontario program is funded in part by the Government of Canada.

## HOT WATER DOESN'T JUST COME KNOCKING AT YOUR DOOR.

There's been a lot of discussion at homeowners' front doors recently about rental water heaters. Here are the three things you need to know:

### 1. Know who's at your door.

Direct Energy does not send door-to-door representatives to upgrade or exchange our water heaters. Nor do we authorize any Utility, Government Agency or any other company to do so on our behalf.

When in doubt – call us first!

### 2. Be informed!

Signing a contract could jeopardize the competitive rental rates and the reliable worry-free service you've been receiving. Before signing – call us first!

### 3. Don't let just anyone into your home.

Only a licensed technician should have access to your Direct Energy water heater and only by appointment. Be careful – call us first!

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As your water heater provider, we feel it is our responsibility to provide you, our customers, with hot-water straight talk and reliable information to ensure you make an informed decision.

Before you decide, visit  
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Or call 1-866-502-0034

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Home Services

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## Region approves new police and EMS station

➤ Total project cost \$4.8 million, funded by Region

A shovel will be in the ground next month for the joint emergency medical services and police

station at Thompson and Gilmore Roads.

Regional councillors approved a tender award report last Thursday, moving ahead with the site, which the Region's manager of facilities management Carmen Bertone said will provide a more efficient

system for both services.

The total cost of the project is \$4.8 million, funded completely by the regional government.

The construction price tag is estimated to be \$3.5 million and the remainder of the costs will cover site development and the purchase of the land.

## Broadcaster enlightens crowd at Women's Day luncheon

Kris Dubé  
The Times

Leading a successful career and a personal life full of joy is what women should strive for.

This is the message Sunni Genesco conveyed as the special guest at last Friday's

International Women's Day luncheon at Bridgewater Country Club, hosted by the Greater Fort Erie Chamber of Commerce.

Genesco, a Fort Erie native, whose real name is Maria Gianfrancesco, has been in the broadcasting industry for 31 years, and



**Women can be very happy in their work and have a good personal life too."**

— Sunni Genesco

can currently be heard on 102.9 K-LITE FM in Hamilton as the co-host of "Sunni and Hayes" morning show with her colleague Matt Hayes, another popular name in the world of broadcasting.

They also do a show every morning from Monday to Friday on CHCH News.

When asked by the Chamber of Commerce to be this year's guest speaker, she didn't know exactly how she would form her presentation to the hundreds of women in the crowd, but eventually decided she wanted to touch on the balance between being successful at work, but still having a good family life to return home to.

"Women can be very happy in their work and have a good personal life too," she said.

When she took the first step with her career by attending Fanshawe College, she said the number of men outweighed the amount of women looking to get into her field.

Now, she says those numbers have basically turned around completely and there are many more women entering the industry.

All of them have likely worked hard to get where they are now, which she did to get to the title and reputation she has at the moment.

"It all sort of came together... and it certainly wasn't handed to me," she said.



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# Students cooking up what they love to do

Kris Dubé  
The Times

For Ashley Maulucci and Kelly Plato, school is a piece of cake.

The two grade 11 Fort Erie Secondary School (FESS) students, enrolled in the hospitality and tourism program has helped them make up their minds on what path they will be taking in their careers after high school... and both expect it will have something to do with the fine art of baking.

Recently, between both students, five medals have been brought back to FESS from District School Board of Niagara job skills demonstrations.

The pair is hoping to advance to Waterloo, after a tally of their scores from the entire school year's competitions and events is calculated.

Plato said not only is this a great way to meet new people who share the same interests, but is also a chance to assess the competition and see what

they are up to in the kitchen.

"It gives us an opportunity to see what other students are doing and how we compare to them," said Plato, who came to FESS from Ridgeway-Crystal Beach High School (RCBHS) after finishing grade nine.

She enjoyed her time at RCBHS, but when she came to FESS and started with Mr. Keyvani's hospitality program, she admits this is when she found her calling in life.

"I had no idea what I wanted to do, but when I came to FESS, it sort of all changed," she said.

For Maulucci, she hasn't wasted any time getting prepared for the real world once she graduates high school, considering she has already started her own cake-baking business from her home, which she has appropriately called Hearts and Flowers, creating specialty cakes, choux paste and cookies for anyone interested in patronizing her business in its early stage.

"I've always baked for my family, but now it has



**The students really want to be here."**

— Afshin Keyvani

branched out," she said.

"My parents yell at me for using all the eggs," she laughed.

Afshin Keyvani, hospitality and tourism program teacher at FESS, says he is extremely proud of these two students' efforts and accomplishments, as well as everyone else who has taken the class.

"The students really want to be here," he said.

The Pomegranate Restaurant, in its fourth year, has had another successful year, Keyvani explained.

"We're busy as ever," he said.

Anyone interested in making a reservation for an upcoming Wednesday seating, you can call the school at (905) 871-4610.



KRIS DUBÉ/ Fort Erie Times

Grade 11 students at Fort Erie Secondary School Ashley Maulucci, left, and Kelly Plato have represented their school by bringing back five medals this year, for their skills in the fine art of baking. They are enrolled in the hospitality and tourism high skills major class.



All branches closed  
Sunday, Mar. 13  
St. Patrick's Celebration  
Wed. Mar. 16  
Stevensville Hall  
7 p.m.  
\$5 admission,  
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March Break events  
Every morning at centennial branch at 10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. at Crystal Ridge Branch, there's a "great show."

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MARCH 24, 2011

- 4:30 - 7:30pm
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### Coming Events A940

#### SPRING SALE

Saturday, March 26, 9 a.m. - 11 p.m.  
Hosted by Gilmore Lodge #45, 50 Gilmore  
SPECIAL LADIES SLACKS \$5.00/PAIR  
(All new, all colours, mixed sizes S-XL)  
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### Legal Notices A900

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

All claims against the estate of Julia Thomas, late of the Town of Fort Erie, in the Regional Municipality of Niagara, who died on or about February 23, 2011, must be filed with the undersigned probate representative on or before April 22, 2011; thereafter, the undersigned will distribute the assets of the said estate having regard only to the claims then filed.

Dated the 9th day of March, 2011.  
James Michael Potkowski, Executor  
c/o Robert S. Hallett Law Professional Corporation  
Sarnia & Spiller  
1232 Garden Road  
Fort Erie, Ontario  
L2A 1P1  
(Phone) 905-871-4356  
(Fax) 905-871-0255

### General Employment A900

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

All persons having claims against the Estate of HEDWIG (HEIDI) SERKIS, late of the Town of Fort Erie, in the Regional Municipality of Niagara, who died on the 27th day of February, 2011, are notified to send particulars to the undersigned on or before the 27th day of March, 2011, after which date the estate will be distributed with regard only to claims which are acknowledged or paid within, and the undersigned will not be liable to any person or persons whose claims the undersigned shall not have received.

Dated the 27th day of February, 2011.  
Therese Pelchat, Estate Trustee  
by her solicitors:  
Jensen, Jankowski & Radehop  
288 Ridgeway Road  
Ridgeway, Ontario  
L2B 1M6  
Telephone: 905-884-0220  
Fax: 905-884-5366

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Route: 2004A - Thunder Bay - 40 papers (Belthune, Neva, Shirley, Thunder Bay, Centralia)

Route: 2004D - Thunder Bay - 44 papers (Bernard, Hyman, Jewell, Neva, Parker, Grove)

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## Birthday greetings



### Happy 90th Birthday Betty Grey

Love from your children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

When you want to tell that special person just how you feel, send them a note in print. Call Classified Extra Announcements 1-866-541-6757

## Deaths

**BECK, Mary Anne** - At Welland County General Hospital on Sunday March 6, 2011. Mary, beloved wife of James, dear mother of James (Deb), Maureen (Winn), Denise (Curt), Krista (Jay), sister of Eleanor (Leroy), Helen (Timmy), Bob (Audrey), & Jack-loving grandmother of Casey (Adam), Stacielle (Jeff), Mary Ann (Justin), John Lafontaine, great-grandmother of Emilee, Bishay, Carl, Ciara, Cody, Ashlyn. Also survived by several nieces & nephews. Predeceased by parents Leonard and Dorothy Brown. Al Mary's request cremation has taken place and services will be held at a later date in lieu of flowers donations to the Dialysis Unit at Welland General Hospital would be appreciated by the family. Arrangements entrusted to **NIAGARA FUNERAL ALTERNATIVES** (905) 694-0120.

**BRIDEN, Harold Robert** - Passed away at the St. Catharines General Hospital on Friday March 4th, 2011 in his 83rd year. Loving husband of Norma Dawdy. Proud father of Ray (Beatrice), Robert (Anne), Richard (Linda), Randall (Linda), Kathy and Michelle (Rick). Sadly missed by the members of the Dawdy family, his many grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, extended family and friends. Predeceased by his brothers and sisters. Harold was a proud veteran of the Korean War. A member of the Korean War Veterans Association and a member of Royal Canadian Legion Br. #71 Private family services have been entrusted to **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES**, 1105 Benner Ave. Fort Erie.

**FISHER, William F.** - At Douglas Memorial Hospital on March 5, 2011. William F. Fisher, beloved husband of Dorcas Fisher (2011). At Bill's request cremation has taken place. A private service will be held at a later date. Arrangements entrusted to **NIAGARA FUNERAL ALTERNATIVES**, 905-694-0120.

**ROBINSON, Lettie V.** - At Crescent Park Lodge on Friday March 4, 2011. Lettie, beloved wife of the late Gus, dear mother of Tim of Fort Erie. Al Lettie's request cremation has taken place. Arrangements entrusted to **NIAGARA FUNERAL ALTERNATIVES** 905-694-0120.

**SCOTT, Joyce Elizabeth** - Joyce passed away at the Greater Niagara General Hospital on Monday March 7th, 2011 in her 68th year. Loving wife of Gary. Proud mother of Brenda (Chris) Herbert of Niagara Falls. Much loved grandmother of Brittany and Nathan. Cherished sister of Ron (Sharon) Snyder of Niagara Falls. Also survived by brothers in law, son Don Scott of Burlington and Paul Scott of Fort Erie. Predeceased by her grandson Brayden. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES**, 1105 Benner Ave. Fort Erie entrusted with arrangements. The family will receive friends on Tuesday March 15th, from 12:30 pm until the time of service to celebrate Joyce's life at 1 pm. If so desired, donations to the Alzheimer's Society would be appreciated by the family.

## Card of thanks

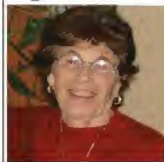
### BELL

The family of Pauline Bell would like to thank to their family, friends and neighbours for all their love and support. Food, drink, flowers, plants, cards and donations to Big Brothers and Sisters. The family gathered tremendous strength from the wonderful support of the legion. Thank you Martha Lockwood for capturing our feelings so perfectly. Thanks to Uncle Bob (and Colette too). Special thanks to Darren Pegg at Benner Funeral Home for all his guidance and professionalism. Thanks to the staff at the legion for their hospitality. Also thanks to Lin's and The Place for their generosity. Sincerely,  
Dean, Shannon, Pam and families.

When days are dark, friends lead.  
Grandma does, we think of you.  
Friends are friends if they are true.  
We list our best when we need you.

Memoriam Verse #22  
To remember a loved one with this verse  
Call 1-866-541-6757 Today

## In memoriam



### Brigida Vitiello

In loving memory of a dear Wife, Mom and Nanna who passed away March 10, 2010.

'Tis but a year ago today,  
Since God called you away.

We miss your laugh and gentle smile,  
Thank you for giving us so many wonderful memories.

A wife and mother who gave us  
the best years of her life.  
Who cherished our secrets,  
our sorrows, our smiles.

We taught us to love and taught us to pray.  
God bless you today.

Your loving husband Angelo,  
grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

## In memoriam

### DINAH BRYANT

In loving memory of a dear daughter,  
mother, sister and aunt  
who passed away March 13th, 2005.  
Another year has passed since God called  
you away.

But still we miss you each and every day,  
What we wouldn't give to take one more walk.  
Or just sit quietly and have one more talk.

We miss you Dinah and always will  
Lovingly remembered by Mum, Dad,  
her son Jacob, her sisters Audrey  
and Caroline and all the family.

Every day, in some small way,  
Memories of you come our way.  
Though absent, you are ever near,  
Still missed, still loved, and ever dear.

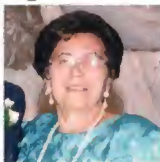
Memoriam Verse #1  
To remember a loved one with this verse  
Call 1-866-541-6757 Today



Not now, but in the coming years,  
I may be in the better land.  
We'll know the meaning of our tears  
And then some day we'll understand.

Memoriam Verse #14  
To remember a loved one with this verse  
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## In memoriam



In loving memory of a dear wife, mother,  
grandmother and great grandmother

### Immacolata Passero

who passed away March 16, 2006

If roses grow in Heaven Land  
Please pick a bunch from us,  
Place them in my mother's arms  
And tell her they're from us.

Tell her we love her and miss her  
And when she turns to smile,  
Place a kiss upon her cheek,  
And hold her for awhile.

Because remembering her is easy  
We do it every day.  
But there is an ache within our hearts  
That will never go away.

Sadly missed by Lorenzo, all your children,  
grandchildren and great grandchildren.

### In loving memory of Marie Bailey

March 12, 1967

You are missed each and every day  
in a very special way.  
Until we all meet again,  
Love, Your Family

There is a sad and sweet remembrance,  
There is memory fond and true;  
There is a town of affection  
And a heavenly self for you.

### Memoriam Verse #35

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## In memoriam

In memory of a great friend  
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### Gwen Gilmour

who was a dedicated and proud member of  
our group for 17 years. We could count  
on Gwen to lend a hand wherever she  
was needed. Our condolences go out to  
Gwen's husband Lion Bud, to her  
children, and extended families near & far.  
Ridgeway Lionsess Club.



### Rob Parker

Does everything that makes people happy

As good as a sweet cookie

Does really good things for others

Does things that are really funny

You are a champion Dad.

I love you and miss you.

Love, Your Son Steven



### Rob Parker

This month comes with deep regret

It brings back a day we will never forget.

He fell asleep without saying good-bye

But memories of him will never die.

One of the best the world could hold

His cherished smile, his heart of gold.

Always so good, unselfish and kind

What beautiful memories he left behind.

Lovingly remembered by Mom, Dad, Steven,  
Helen, Louanne, Wayne and families.

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KRIS DUBÉ/ Fort Erie Times

Fort Erie Meteors captain Andrew Ansell carries the puck into Thorold's end last Saturday at the Leisureplex.

## Meteors swept out of playoffs

Team's general manager Tony Passero describes 7-45 regular season record as 'disappointing'

Kris Dubé  
The Times

Fort Erie Meteors general manager has summed up the 2010-11 season for his Jr. B hockey club as "disappointing."

The squad entered the first round of playoffs against the Thorold Blackhawks with a 7-45 record, something Passero told his team to put behind them, starting with a fresh record in the postseason.

In the first game, the Meteors held their own, losing only 2-0 after an empty net goal sealed the deal for Thorold.

In the second game, the Meteors held a 3-1 lead after the first period, before the Blackhawks took the lead 4-3 heading into the final game. The Meteors

were able to tie it up and take the 5-game to overtime, where the Blackhawks came out on top.

The next two games, the Meteors lost 10-2 and 10-1, as Thorold completed the sweep.

Although the regular season record is nowhere near what any hockey club wants to see, Passero said the season wasn't a total loss as many players played a positive role on the team.

"We had a hard working team that got better as we went along," said Passero.

"We had some players that did have a good season, as have bright futures in hockey," he added.

He said the new coaching staff, recruited at the start of the season did an "admirable job" and he looks forward to starting a new season later this year.

Passero wants to thank all the sponsors that assisted the team this year, and is calling out to the community for volunteers at home games during the 2010-11 season. Anyone interested, can reach him at (905) 871-7462.

# Stanley Cup coming to town

Scotiabank's Celebration of Hockey Tour bringing Lord Stanley to local branch on Mar. 25

The Holy Grail of hockey is making a stop in Fort Erie.

On March 25th, the Stanley Cup will be on display at the Scotiabank inside the County Fair Mall, from 4 to 8 p.m.

Part of the financial institution's national

Celebration of Hockey tour, the local branch is one of two stops in Ontario, and branch manager Gord Gregory is looking forward to hosting the event, he expects will draw a huge crowd of fans.

"It's nice to be able to present something of this calibre to the community," said Gregory.

Scotiabank has supported the sport of hockey at all levels for many years between minor league sponsorships and being the official bank of the National Hockey League.

Photographs with the Cup will be available, along with a collection of hockey memorabilia, said Gregory.

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## Bricks & Bouquets

If you have a brick or bouquet send it to  
editorial@forterietimes.com or  
phone 905-871-3100, ext. 210 and leave a message

**Bouquet**  
To Alex Gill, a local reserve fund, after \$20,000 was taken from it to pay for a second legal opinion scored in a shootout at the Fort Erie Meteors' recent kids' night at the Leisureplex. He won a ring the project, he still made it his responsibility to provide assurance to the Fort Erie Fire Department that they were getting the money back that they need for improvements at station no. 2 on Jarvis Street.

**Brick**  
To the Bay Beach issue for not going away anytime soon. I understand it is very important and can't look past the minimal negative close attention to it, but impacts and see how positive's move on to something else. Get this resolved one way or another and start moving forward with other projects.

**Bouquet**  
To everyone who participated in the Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowl Passero and his colleagues for Kids' Safe campaign, for finding a way to helping them achieve replenish the fire facilities their \$40,000 goal.

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